

Spring 4-8-2004

## Journalist April 2004

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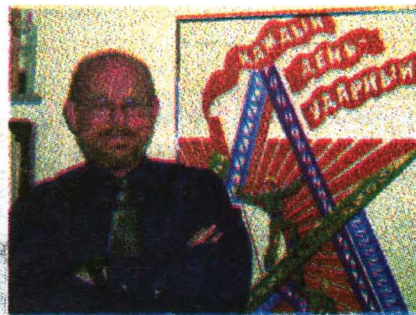
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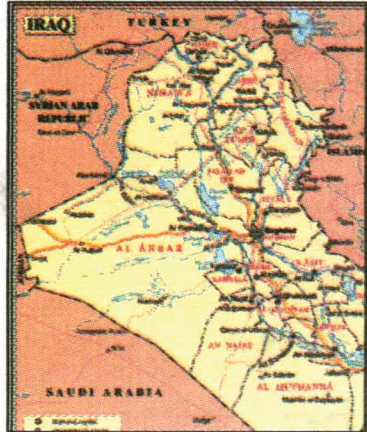




Director and Professor of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences, Bill Richardson tells of Russian lifestyles.

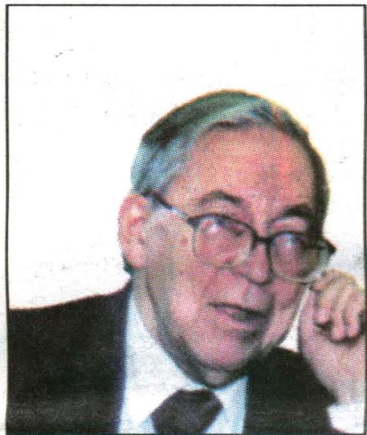
Journalist: Page 4

A look inside...



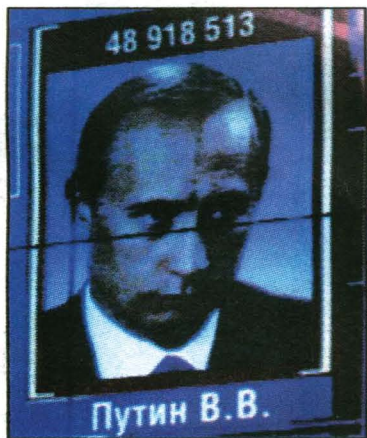
War in Iraq seen from global perspective.

Journalist: Page 2



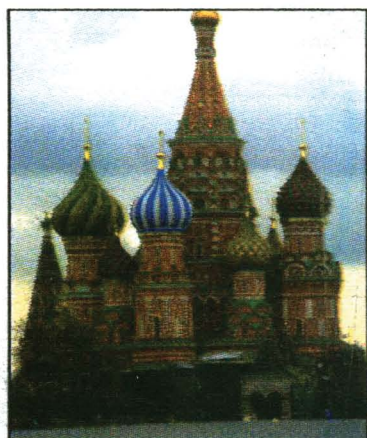
Russian professor talks about American culture.

Journalist: Page 4



President Vladimir Putin dominates elections in Russia.

Journalist: Page 5



UWT students visit Moscow, Russia.

Journalist: Page 8

## Deep cuts could end services

Student organizations face financial meltdown:  
ASUWT and The Ledger among hardest hit

by Marques Hunter

The numbers didn't add up when the Student Activities Fund Committee (SAFC) finished a ten-hour budget proposal meeting April 2 for the 2004-05 annual budget allocations.

The Associated Students for the University of Washington, Tacoma (ASUWT) and *The Ledger* received massive budget cuts that will have an impact on the future successes of these two organizations.

The Career Services Center's (CSC) budget allocation for next year should decrease approximately \$5,000, compared to their current annual budget.

If Interm Chancellor Steve Olswang recommends the proposed 2004-05 budget to the Board of Regents on April 16, ASUWT's budget next year will be cut in half and *The Ledger's* budget will be cut by nearly two-thirds. Both organizations received over \$110,000 this year in budget allocations. Next year it could drop below \$45,000 for both organizations.

The CSC's budget and the Events and Sports budget took the littlest shot from the SAFC's budget crunch. ASUWT President Mark Dodson serves as an Ex-officio member of the SAFC, which means he is a non-voting student government member. Dodson said the SAFC was regrettably forced to rank the Career Services Center as a

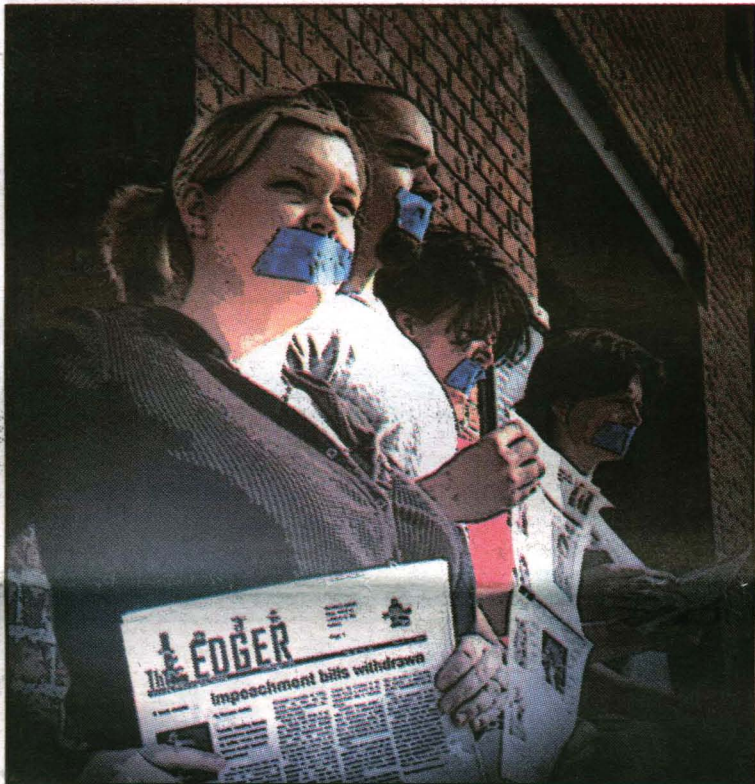
higher asset than other student organizations.

"While I was sitting at the meeting, the SAFC tried to gauge what students need more," Dodson said. "The committee felt the CSC has more of a need on campus."

A large group of people showed up at the budget proposal meeting to advocate proper

Ledger's budget's combined.

"Their (SAFC) argument is that if a student really wants to serve on student government, than money's not going to be a factor," Dodson said. "Or if they really want to work for the student newspaper, than money's not going to be a factor. I would argue against that especially on a massively low-income campus."



Joshua Gaebel / The Ledger

From left to right: Carmela Amador, Marques Hunter, Meg Smith and Marlene Hanson.

funding of the CSC. With that help, the CSC could potentially have a larger budget that almost doubles ASUWT and The

Dodson said that given the circumstances the SAFC was in, the committee did about as good of a job with what they had.

"We will feel the impact more this upcoming year instead of feeling it really bad the year after," Dodson said.

The budget downsize for student organizations is a financial blow that could affect the sustainability of key student organizations that are essential to any university. Added to this equation is the fact that S&A fees will increase this summer.

This year, every full-time student pays \$97 dollars per quarter to the Student and Activities (S&A) fee. Effective this summer, S&A fee will increase three dollars. 15 percent of next year's collected S&A fees will go toward the S&A long-term development account (a type of savings account).

To explain the proposed cuts, 15 percent of the S&A fees will go into the S&A long-term development account. The student government did not add to this account last year.

Consequently, SAFC was forced to make budget cuts and strengthen the long-term development account that was depleted largely due to the cost of the Student Center and other amenities.

Still, many questions are left unanswered as to why the CSC was given a realistic budget, whereas ASUWT and *The Ledger*, two active and arguably necessary student organizations, are left to sink or swim.

## Silencing the campus voice

by Meg Smith

Every campus has them—a student government, student organizations and a newspaper. Current budget cuts threaten to change that for this campus.

Recently, each of these groups brought their budgets before the Student Activities Fund Committee (SAFC) and asked for funding from student fees. The SAFC deliberated for many hours and then cut the budgets for various organizations. *The Ledger's* cuts were so severe, they threaten the very existence of the newspaper.

This year there were more requests for funding than there were funds available and SAFC had to make cuts to existing budgets. Student government and *The Ledger* both were decreased by more than 50 percent.

Other budgets had minimal cuts, such as the career center with a

decrease of around \$5,000 from their \$90,000 budget this year. *The Ledger* had operated without an increase for the last two years and was asking for additional funding to update equipment and provide staff additional training. The budget was cut from around \$53,000 for this year to around \$21,000 for next year.

*The Ledger*, an award winning

and nationally recognized publication, is the voice of the student body. It provides a forum for students to voice their ideas and their opinions.

This paper provides a historical background to the campus. It dates back to 1993 when a group of students joined together to create the first UWT newspaper, *The Independent*. Those first few issues

of *The Independent* were sporadic and inconsistent. There were no established publication dates, no budget and no manager. The paper came together at the expense of the student's grade point averages and families. They felt strongly about having a student voice on campus.

See Budget page 4

### SAFC budget allocations

	2003-04	2004-05	Difference
Student Organizations	\$10,000	\$14,967	\$4,967
Tahoma West	\$25,000	\$24,660	\$(-)340
The Ledger	\$55,272	\$20,878	\$(-)34,394
Safety and Security Escorts	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$2,000
Childcare Assistance Program	\$90,292	\$56,000	\$(-)34,292
Career Services Center	\$89,710	\$85,144	\$(-)4,566
Student Life - Student Organizations	\$10,000	\$14,967	\$4,967
Student Life - Annual Operations	\$57,200	\$44,260	\$(-)12,940
Student Life - SAFC Operations	unknown	\$1,500	unknown
Student Life - Events & Sports	\$65,000	\$65,000	none
Student Life - Leadership Training	\$23,090	\$20,000	\$(-)3,090
Student Government (ASUWT)	\$57,200	\$23,135	\$(-)34,065
Contingency (Reserve Fund)	\$32,525	unknown	unknown



# Hidalgo, great race for survival

by Penney White

Hang up the spurs and sit back for an epic action-adventure about an amazing race and a battle for redemption.

Director Joe Johnston generally draws toward movies that have some fantasy to them.

It's a good movie to see even if viewers do not go for the horse tale. The movie leaves questions about political innuendos regarding Native Americans and Saving the Mustangs but, all in all the film is enjoyable.

This movie is about a long distance rider and his horse Hidalgo. The race is named Oceans of Fire, a great horse race that takes place in Bedouin, which is centuries old in tradition. It is a 3,000-mile race of survival for both man and horse across the Arabian Desert. But only Arabian horses of the grandest bloodlines and owned by the noblest families may be invited.

In 1890, Hidalgo and his rider, an American, Frank Hopkins (Viggo Mortensen, Lord

of the Rings), were invited to enter the race. Hidalgo's reputation as a Spanish mixed bred mustang and his successes in distance races gained them special invitation to the race.

Since this movie is based on a true story, the director tries to give an understanding of the real Frank Hopkins. He was a U.S. Cavalry dispatch rider who unknowingly delivered the orders for the massacre at Wounded Knee.

Moreover, Hopkins sees the one-sided massacre by the U.S. Cavalry. Half Native American and Caucasian, the movie tells of his inner battles with the possibilities of what would have happened if he had let others around him know who he truly was. His father was a military man and his mother was a Sioux Indian.

The race becomes a battle for survival, honor, and newfound dignity. When the Arab envoy finds Hopkins and Hidalgo, they are in Wild Bill's Wild West Show. Hopkins is a drunk trying

to hide from his past and deny himself a future.

This is only one of the many obstacles along the way. Some other interesting obstacles are locusts, boiling quicksand, the heat and a sandstorm that reminds you of *The Mummy*.

Omar Sharif plays one of the most elegant parts as Sheikh Rigadh, the finest most honorable Arabian horse breeder and head of the Bedouin race. He sends an envoy to the United States to invite Hidalgo to race.

The movie takes a temporary turn once the cowboy is half way through the race. Should Al-Hattal, Rigadh's horse win the race, Rigadh will give his daughter Jazira (Zuleikha Robinson) to the jockey, Prince Bin Al Reeh (Said Taghmaoui). Jazira, in the meantime, is tired of hiding her face from men. She is a woman of her own mind, before her time or country.

Jazira is kidnapped along with the royal breeding manual. Rigadh asks for Hopkins to rescue Jazira, which will save

Hopkins manhood from being removed. To make things more difficult, Jazira is a little troublemaker, sneaking into tents where she does not belong. At this point, the movie segway's into Hopkins saving the day with his

six-shooter and the princess's bodyguard as a partner. He races across rooftops, pulling an Indiana Jones feat.

This movie is rated PG-13 for adventure violence and some mild sexual innuendos.



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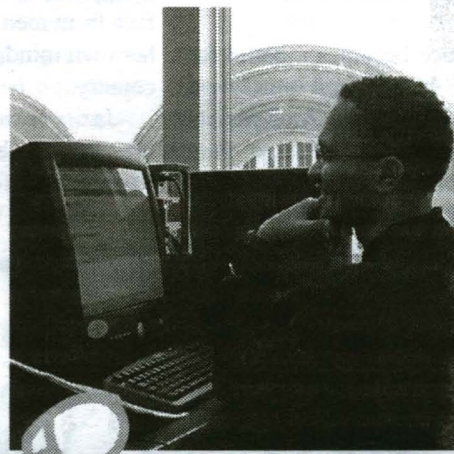
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## Budget: cutting the budget means cutting student voices

continued from front page

Now that voice is threatened by budget constraints. The cuts to *The Ledger's* budget are not just cuts to equipment or printing costs, but do away with the publication manager position, and cut into office expenses, staff pay and training.

In other words, the cuts are so deep they move the paper back to 1993 when it looked more like a student newsletter than a newspaper and could not consistently keep a staff or a publication date. What does it mean to have a university without a student newspaper?

Our founding fathers knew the importance of newspapers in representing the people and acting as a watchdog over the government. Samuel Adams, a radical journalist, roused the people by using the colonial press to resist the Stamp Act, which eventually was repealed.

Adams' response to this success bore the signs of modern journalism: "But your press has sounded the alarm. Your press has spoken to us the words of truth. It has pointed to this people their danger and their remedy. It has set before them liberty and slavery."

*The Ledger* needs the voices of the students, staff and faculty on this campus to come together and defend the need for this publication. It is more than a place where students get experience in writing, editing, photography, team work, publication and deadlines. It is a part of the foundation our founding fathers laid for us.

"The First Amendment gives the press the right to publish news, information and opinions without government interference. This also means people have the right to publish their own newspapers, newsletters, magazines, etc," from Illinois Press Association Guide to First Amendment & Access Laws (1995).

Please write or call the SAFC chair, Sarah Myers and let her know that it is important to have a student voice on campus. Myers can be reached at [smyers@u.washington.edu](mailto:smyers@u.washington.edu) or at 692-4685 (leave a message.)

This is a time of sacrifice and organizations on campus have to be willing to accept cuts, but not the kind of cuts that eliminate an established program. These funds come from student pockets and SAFC needs your input about how to best spend your dollars.

Meg Smith is the publication manager and was the first editor of the newspaper when it was established in 1993. Smith is a journalism instructor at Pierce College and a former weekly newspaper editor and reporter.

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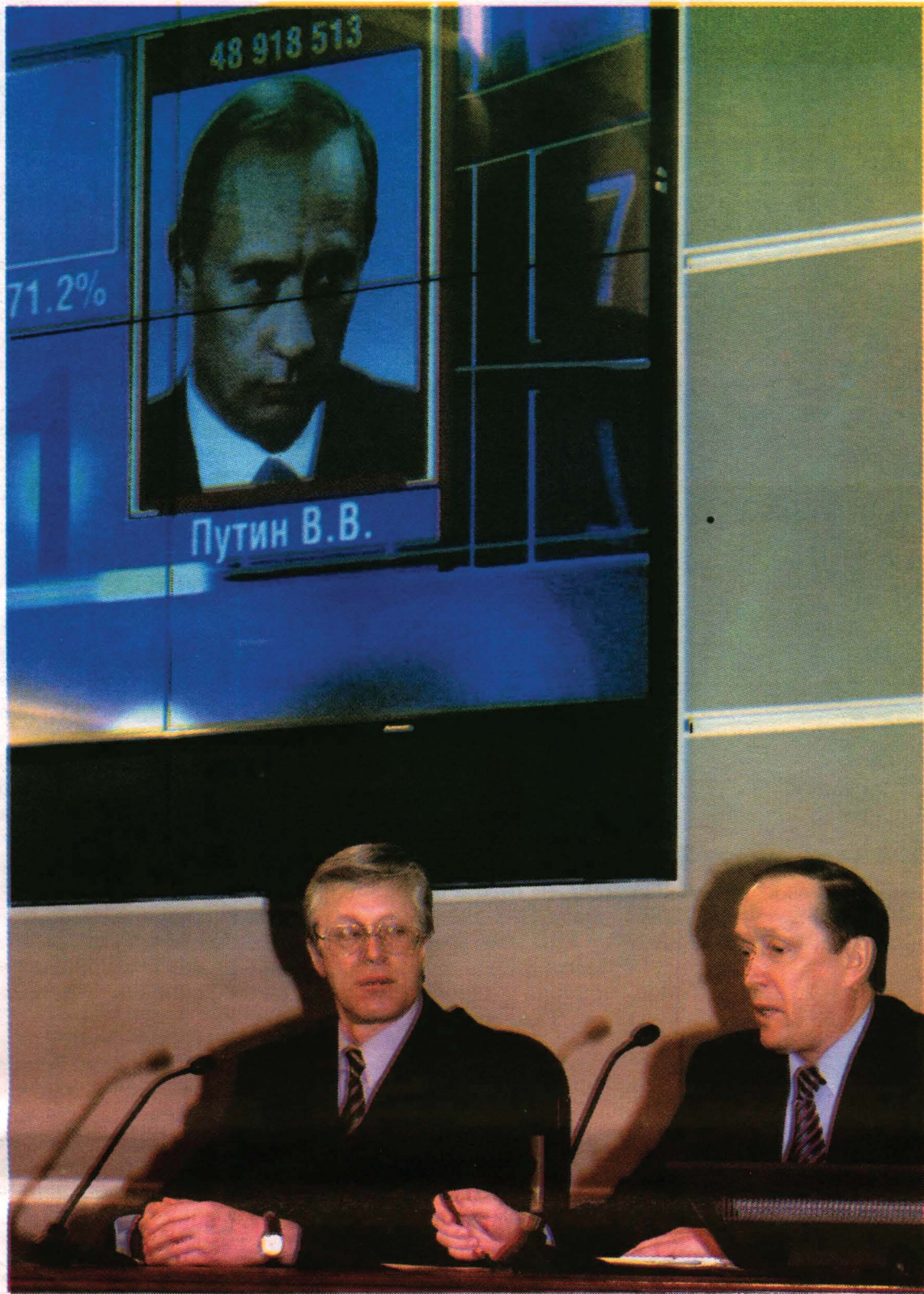
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# VLADIMIR PUTIN TAKES THE VOTE WITH EASE

Andrei Birjukov

Putin had no serious competitors in the elections. Communist Nikolai Kharitonov received 14 percent of the votes. Former communist economist Sergei Glazyev and pro-business leader Irina Khakamada receive about 4 percent and only claimed to compete. The most surprising fact is that Putin received more than 98 percent of the vote in Chechnya, battered by more than four years of a war under his leadership.

Many people ignored their civil duty by not visiting the election district because the result was predetermined. Only about 64 percent of eligible voters turned out, according to official statistics. About 6 percent of voters chose the candidate against all because there were no real opponents against Putin.

From the beginning of the campaign, there was the absence of rivalry as the majority of mass media resources were backing the main candidate and not paying attention to other ones. All the international observers made it clear that the coverage wasn't fair and the administrative source was entirely devoted to Putin. They criticized Russia's presidential election for falling short of basic democratic standards, even when Putin accepted congratulatory telephone calls from presidents and prime ministers of the world's leading democracies. President Bush congratulated Putin on his reelection and encouraged him to follow through on his reforms. "The president emphasized how with this election, President Putin has an opportunity to deepen Russia's commitment to reform — market-based reform and democratic reform," said the White House press secretary Scott McClellan at a briefing in Washington.

Despite that Putin didn't participate in the debates, he had a lot of opportunities to show himself. In the beginning, he participated at the military training. Then he attended a press conference with students in Siberia. Finally, Putin surprised everyone

when he made the government resign. "This presidential campaign looks like a plebiscite (vote without a choice). The real elections disappeared. Russia has no tradition of TV-debates. The candidates have a right not to participate in TV-debates. Imagine that someone in the United States refused to debate. It will be a great scandal," Assistant Professor of Periodical Press Chair Ludmila Resniavskaya said.

All candidates except Khakamada and Glaziev didn't seem able to compete. The only reason Sergey Mironov participated was to not spoil the elections. "I will vote for Putin. I support him", he said. Ivan Ribkin was a project of Russian oligarch Platon Elenin (Boris Berezovsky). "This project didn't work well because there was a problem with a compromat (the story about the 5-day disappearance of the former candidate - Journalist) We got farce as a result", told our correspondent Ludmila Resniavskaya. We didn't even mention Malishkin, the guard of V. Zhirinovskiy, who was something like a clown among other candidates.

Irina Khakamada tried to destroy the calmness. She accused the Central Election Commission about the advertisement of the president elections as being the same as the one of the United Russia at the previous Duma elections. This fact has only one explanation. The same advertisers made this advertisement. During the Duma elections campaign, Putin backed the United Russia and this explains how the advertisement was a reminder to vote for Putin.

"I want to assure you and I promise that, in the next four years, I will work just as hard, do everything in my power to have the entire government work just as intensively," Putin told reporters. This is a key quote that explains the whole course of the next four years. What did he mean? Is it the enforcement of the power or just the improvement of all democratic institutes? Only time will tell.

“Many people ignored their civil duty by not visiting the election district because the result was predetermined. Only about 64 percent of eligible voters turned out, according to official statistics. About 6 percent of voters chose the candidate against all because there were no real opponents against Putin.”



## Fesco trades peace and profits with Port of Tacoma

Maintaining peace takes more than a handshake is between President Bush and President Putin

by Carmela Amador

Trade exchanges are necessary to ensure peaceful American and Russian relations via profits, trust made by way of successful shipments, and the globalization of essential goods.

By creating a global market through business relationships, both America and Russia succeed in exchange of peace and profits.

Russian steamship lines do business with American ports to export natural resources and import a variety of American consumer goods in break bulk containers.

Transactions such as these call for commitment and trust. Far Eastern Shipping Company, FESCO, has found such in trade with the Port of Tacoma in Tacoma, WA.

"We take good care of FESCO here," says Susan Beckland, director of Trade Services at the Port of Tacoma. "It

results in a strong relationship and trust."

Since 1976 its relationship with the U.S. has been off and on until politics stopped using trade as a contingency of peace. In 1980, an embargo block-

ing Russian trade to the U.S. became the result of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan.

Trade relations were then at a stand still until 1995 when Russia and the U.S. made the decision to value trade and profit over an that had been brought about by an invasion that was long over.

FESCO ships started to trickle back into the Port of Tacoma until the banks crashed as a result of the Russian transition from communism to democracy.

In 2002 Beckland and other Russian correspondents with FESCO began to see regular shipments.

President Putin made this because oil investments at Sakhalin Island brought enough capital to make trade relations consistent.

Last year FESCO brought just under \$1 million to the \$72 million imported to the city of Tacoma.

FESCO is a 124-year-old steamship line that helped set the globalization foundation. Now the company trades with some of the world's best ports.

"The SA-15 ice cutters come into our waterway bringing aluminum from Russia," says Beckland. The aluminum that Russia ships across the Arctic is taken from the Port of Tacoma for processing in Olympia, WA.

To maintain good trade relations with Russia, a representative from the Port of Tacoma is stationed in Vladivostok.

"The transnational relationship also creates jobs in both Russian and America," says Beckland. In trading with the U.S. ports, FESCO is affected by unionization and labor costs. The union it works with the most is the ILWU, International Longshore Worker's Union.

Trade between the U.S. and Russia stimulates profits, resulting in jobs for these workers and Russian longshoreman at FESCO's headquarters in Vladivostok.

Trade between FESCO and the Port of Tacoma results in peace from jobs, profits, and economic gain.



**"The SA-15 ice cutters come into our waterway bringing aluminum from Russia," Beckland says. The aluminum that Russia ships across the Arctic is taken from the Port of Tacoma for processing in Olympia, WA. To maintain good trade relations with Russia, a representative from the Port of Tacoma is stationed in Vladivostok.**



# National character blends with stereotypes

In every joke, there is an element of truth to it.

Nikita Perepelkin

What is national character? Does it exist? Are all people different or are there typical traits between nations?

An English proverb says that it takes all sorts to make a world. Maybe we change it and say that it takes one sort to make a nation, and national character is made up of some stereotypes based on what nations think about each other.

International jokes come from a variety of popular stereotypes. International jokes usually have the same topic.

People of different nationalities react to the same occasion in their own way according to their national character. For instance, in Russian jokes, the English are punctual and reserved. The German are practical and disciplined. The French are light-minded and frivolous. Americans are confident and always in a good mood.

Here is a simple example of an international joke: How will people of different nationalities react if they see a fly in a glass of beer.

The practical Germans will throw the fly out and drink the beer.

The sentimental French will take the fly out of the glass, spreads its wings, but won't drink the beer.

The carefree Russian will drink the beer and not notice the fly.

The confident American calls the

## The World according to America



waiter and demands another glass.

The Chinese (they have specific cookery) drinks beer using the fly as an ingredient.

The salesman Jewish drinks the beer and sells the fly to the Chinese.

You can see stereotypes very well in this joke. Heaven is where cooks are French, mechanics are German, policemen are British, lovers are Italian and the Swiss organize it all. Hell is where

cooks are British, policemen are German, lovers are the Swiss, mechanics are French, and Italians organize it all.

American jokes about the nationality of Jesus are also seen in stereotypes from different nations.

### Three proofs that Jesus was Jewish:

1. He went into his father's business.

2. He lived at home until the age of 33.

3. He was sure that his mother was a virgin, and his mother was sure that he was God.

### Three proofs that Jesus was Irish:

1. He never got married.
2. He never had a steady job.
3. His last request was an alcoholic drink.

### Three proofs that Jesus was Italian:

1. He talked with his hands.
2. He drank wine with every meal.
3. He worked in the building trade.

### Three proofs that Jesus was Puerto Rican:

1. His first name was Jesus.
2. He was always in trouble with the law.
3. His mother didn't know who his real father was.

### Three proofs that Jesus was from California:

1. He never cut his hair.
2. He walked around bare foot.
3. He invented a new religion.

These stereotypes may not seem bad or insulting at first. Sometimes they are more truthful than complicated scientific theories that national character may predict. Stereotypes are perceived as real traits of different nations, although these traits are often exaggerated.

So we shouldn't react seriously to international jokes. We should observe our experiences of national character but not pay attention to the whole thing.

# Russian language under attack

Kim Korshunov

During the last twenty years, many words from other languages, especially America's English language, have filled Russian media.

Specialists really worry about how this process may change the entire Russian language.

It was debated some time ago that it is necessary to transfer all American words into Russian language. So, it was necessary to write "tractorny otval" instead of "bulldozer," game of soccer teams name "a meeting" but not "a match", "story" instead of "report." Even the "camembert" cheese at this time has been renamed into cheese "zakusochnyj".

Today, almost no one can argue with the fact that American words are really necessary in an everyday life in Russia. Modern, political, economic and cultural conditions have forced this usage. The words began to fall outside the limits of the professional environment and to be used in press, radio, telecasts, as well as in public speech of politicians and businessmen.

### The attitude to Americanisms

The Council of Russian has recently proposed a bill concerning the status of the "great and mighty Russian language." This bill includes sanctions for the misuse of the native language in mass media. Clearly, the Council understands that the tv anchor during a live telecast may use some of the non-native language.

Even in reading prepared text, it is still possible to occasionally make a mistake. However, this bill to some degree may be unnecessary, as Russian media may find themselves needing to self-monitor due to public opinion.

Complaints of mass-media from audience members are becoming more apparent

and are frequently justified. Their major complaint is that these Americanisms cut an ear. They complain that there is a glut of Americanisms, an abundance of slangy, and even abusive, lexicon.

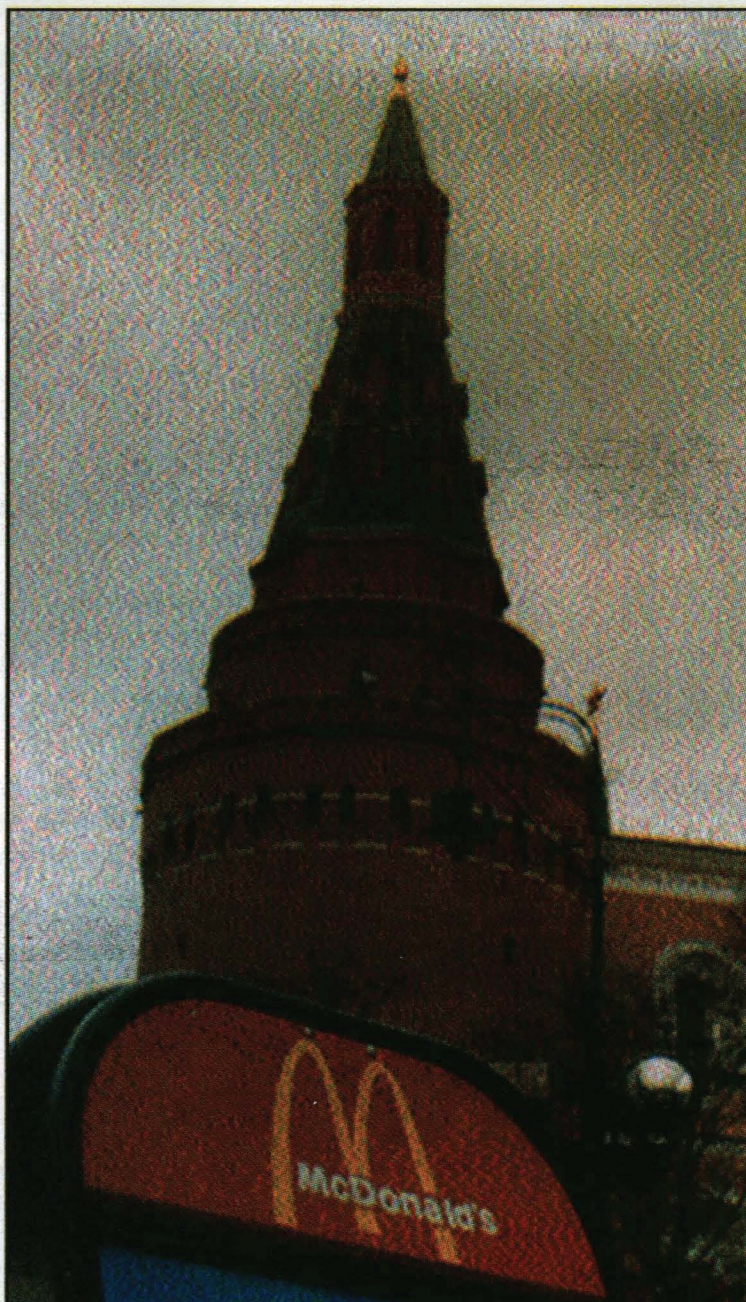
The best criteria for adding an American word to the language might be the overall usefulness of that particular word. For example, technological advancements in the world bring with them their own terminology. These terms cannot be separated from the technology itself. Today, an actual word such as "Internet" is impossible to separate from the realities of a modern life. Or, for example, the American term "online" is a hard word to match in the Russian language.

On the other hand, if there is a Russian word that can be used effectively, then that is the word that should be used. Using someone's words, certainly allows journalists to appear clever, but frequently this use of Americanisms by Russian journalists is not justified.

So what would be the best way for Russia to deal with the problem of Americanisms? Perhaps, the French could offer a solution.

In France, a struggle against words from other languages has waged for a long time. After lengthy and thoughtful debate, the French have developed a penalty system for language use.

For example, for the use of a non-native word in an official transfer or document, the author will be fined up to 10 thousand francs given the condition that in the French language, there is an equivalent of this word. In France, Americanisms are not forbidden, but this system is done to keep the usage down to a minimum. Of course, it is impossible to reach absolute success, but the steps taken by the French are worth respect.



The McDonalds (shown in front of Russian historic architecture) are examples of Americanisms filling Russian media.

# Russian media criticizes Putin's reelection

Arseny Prudnikov

Anna Politkovskaya is an independent observer from "Novaya Gazeta" and says to "Le Temps," "there is no sense in the elections because one man dominates the authorities. Vladimir Putin, who is backed by the presidential administration & innumerable security services, has the absolute power. Putin has turned us back to the neo-soviet regime."

Garry Kasparov, the co-chairman of the "Committee-2008," says to "The Sunday Telegraph" that "Putin is doing his best to terminate the democratic institutions in Russia. The passive positions of the western countries are claims to protect the liberal ideas. This will just help him."

"The Times" reported that all candidates did have some access to the media but all the mass media was directly or indirectly controlled by Putin's friends.

As a result, the candidates didn't have an opportunity to challenge Putin in equal conditions.

"The Toronto Star" reports that the local authorities succeeded in spoiling the campaign for other candidates. "Business Week" reports our 2004 election process is a strict reminder of the soviet methods.



# EAST MEETS WEST MARRIAGE MADE IN RUSSIA

Russians say that a man has to plant a tree, build a house and bring up a son. In reality, he has to make a career, to find a good wife, bring up children, be a good husband and to be a good father as well. In addition, he must help his parents and do many other things. This is a lot, but maybe not so much over the course of his lifetime. On the other hand, a woman finds herself speeding through life. A Russian lifetime gives her 30 years to get an education and have her children before her biological clock expires. Don't forget she also needs to find a pretty good guy. These time crunches give people little time to make the right decision.

Dasha Osina

By the time Stuart Loory, an American, met Nina Nikolaevna Kudriavtseva, a Russian, he had become an experienced journalist and his children had grown up.

Nina Kudriavtseva finished her career as a dancer at the Bolshoi Theatre and became the artistic director of the international ballet program while bringing up a son.

Loory is now a Lee Hills Professor in Free-Press Studies at the School of Journalism, Columbia and a lecturer at Moscow State University. He graduated from Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in New York. By the 1960s, he became the international correspondent of the New York Herald Tribune in Moscow.

It was the beginning of an immersion into Russian culture and society. By the 1990s, after living in Moscow on and off for ten years, this led him to propose to Nina Nikolaevna. I talked with Pr. Loory about their intercultural marriage and large family.

## Nina makes the first move

**How did you meet?**

Well, it's an interesting story. Of course, I'm asked all the time. In the early 1990s, I was working for Ted Turner (founder of CNN) and when he came to Russia, I would have to make all of his arrangements for his trip, to make sure that his schedule is properly filled. He was coming on a trip in 1993. I had one evening open when nothing had been planned.

I called a friend of mine, who was also my Russian teacher. She also worked for "Literaturnaya Gazeta." She knew the cultural life in the city very well. I asked her if she had any ideas. She said, well, that night there will be a premiere of the opera Faust at the Bolshoi Theatre. I said, good, we'll take Ted and Jane Fonda to "Faust" and I hung up. I was in the United States at that time. And then all of the sudden I thought, why shouldn't we get the Tsars' Box.

So, I called my friend back and said Lisa, let's try to get them to the Tsars' Box.

She called me back and told me whom I had to call and I did. We booked the Tsars' Box which seats 24 people. They were mostly Russians (Ted at that time was interested in starting the Good Will Games which was a big sport at that time). We invited the head of the Olympic committee and his deputies, people from Gosteleradio and government officials.

There is a big oval shaped room behind the box, and you can have a little reception in there. So, during the intermission we served champagne and caviar for 24 people. The Bolshoi sent representatives to the reception. And that's when Nina Nikolaevna and I met."

**That is how you got acquainted. So you talked a little bit...**

"We talked a little bit and the next day she wanted to talk to Ted and Jane, because the Bolshoi had to be closed for remount (repair)."

The Bolshoi was thinking about moving the entire company to some place else in the world to be able to hold the company together. They were afraid that if they just closed the theatre, all the dancers, the orchestra and the singers would just disappear."

**Did you go to the Bolshoi theatre because your friend gave you the advice to go? Had you been to Bolshoi before? Or was it your first time at that theatre?**

"I started visiting the Bolshoi Theatre in 1964 — long before I knew Nina. When I went to the Bolshoi previously, people like Maya Plisetskaya were dancing. I saw her dance many times. Yuri Grigorovich is now married to Natasha Bessmertnova and in the 1960s she was also a great star at the Bolshoi. So, I now know her as the wife of Grigorovich, who is a friend of Nina and a friend of mine as well. And his wife whom I used to see dancing all the time is my friend as well."

**Was Nikolaevna dancing when you met?**

"No. She stopped dancing in the early 1980s. She became an executive. Her title was director of repertoire, which means that she was responsible for scheduling all the times at the theatre. She scheduled the operas, the ballets, and how each scheduling rehearsal was performed. Just about everything at the theatre had to be arranged by her."

**Was she dancing in the corps de ballet or did she have a role?**

"She was in the chorus line. It means she was not a principle ballerina."

**But did you ever see her dancing?**

"I never saw her dancing!"

**How did you start your acquaintance?**

"She arranged the meeting with Ted Turner and Jane Fonda the next day. So she came to the hotel for the meeting and where I was waiting for Ted and Jane. After that, we talked and she invited me a few weeks later to her birthday party. I went to her birthday party at her mother's house."

## Welcome to the USA

**Was the wedding in Russia or in the USA?**

"We did not get married until 1995. We were going to get married in two places, Russia and the United States. One wedding was going to be in the Orthodox Church and the other wedding was going to be in the Jewish synagogue. We thought we would not get married in the synagogue because she is not Jewish. It turned out that we could not get married in the Orthodox Church, but we did get married in the synagogue. So,

we were married in the United States.

**Did she have any problems coming to the USA?**

"She had been to the United States many times before because she had danced in the U.S. with the Bolshoi."

(There were no problems coming to the United States, but it is an interesting fact that after the marriage Loory and Nikolaevna moved to a little town in Missouri. The choice of Missouri was a result of Loory's acceptance of a job at one of the oldest school of journalism in the world, located in Columbia, MO. Nikolaevna only needed a telephone and a computer for her job).

**What did her family think about her moving to the US and having an American husband?**

"I think you have to ask her that. I don't think her family had any problems with this at all. Her mother is a distinguished woman in her own right. She is a translator of English fiction, not just American into Russian. Two years ago she won a major award from The Russian-American Cultural Relations Foundation and this was an award that had previously been won by Mikhail Gorbachev and Mstislav Rostropovich. She was the third winner of that award for her work. She has translated books like "Gone with the Wind."

**What did your family think about Russian women. It's popular nowadays to have a Russian wife but was it 10 years ago?**

"Well, I have three children and they are all married. I think in the beginning, I have to say that they were probably disappointed that I divorced my first wife. I separated from my wife long before I met Nina. But I think there was probably some uneasiness. But, they get along with Nina very well now. She is very acquainted with my children and with my grandchildren."

**How old are your children?**

"Well, my little girl is 42 years old. She is the youngest."

**What do your friends think about Nikolaevna?**

"They all think she is lovely. Everybody enjoys meeting her."

## Happy life for yourself

**Did you see any differences having a Russian wife after you had been married to an American?**

"Well, our whole families' life is different. By the time Nina and I got married, none of my children were living with me. All of them are old and have their own families. That was a considerable difference."

**Were there any differences between you and Nikolaevna at the beginning?**

"Not many. I spent a lot of time here before. I started coming here when Nina was only eleven years old. So in some ways, I probably knew more about this country than she did,



but not in every way."

**Was this Nikolaevna first marriage?**

"No. She has a son and a grandson (Konstantin). Within another few days we'll have another grandchild. (Nina had a second grandson, Arseniy Leonidovich, on Mar 10, 2004).

**You didn't have any cultural difficulties. She was very close to the American culture as you to Russian. Did she have any problems with the language?**

"No. She speaks English and she is also fluent in French. Her mother's translating turned into what we call a cottage industry. She convinced Nina and Nina's son to translate. So, people who translate together, live together. Nina has translated books from French into Russian. Her son Leoneed has also done some translating from English into Russian."

**Does he live with you?**

"No. He is 43 and he lives here in Moscow."

**Do your children know something about Russia and Russian culture?**

"My children lived here when they were very young. When we came the first time, our children came along with us. My daughter went to detski sad (kindergarten) for two years. One of my sons went to detski sad for one year. My other son went to a pioneer camp. So, they know a little bit about Russia."

**Do you have a cultural balance in your family or does one culture dominate?**

"I think we have a good cultural balance."

**What Russian cooking do you like?**

"Generally I like food. I like everything that Nina cooks."

**Does she have any special dishes? An American or a Russian one?**

"No. I don't think so. Generally she really likes cooking. I do a lot of cooking also."

## A successful woman with a computer and a telephone

**What does she do now?**

"Well, she left the Bolshoi and moved to the U.S. in 1997. There is a program here in Moscow. It is called

Benois de la Danse. It is an international ballet prize. Alexander Bnois was a Russian, but he had a French name. He lived in St. Petersburg. He was a stage designer at Mariinski opera and ballet. This prize was named after him. The prize is now in its 12th or 13th year. She is the artistic director of the program. The International Dance Association founded the prize. The president of the prize is Yuri Grigorovich. The general director is a friend of Nina by the name of Regina Nikiforova and Nina is the artistic director. This means that every year Nina has to get the jury together to get the nominations of the people who might get the prize and she has to invite them all to Moscow and make the arrangements for them to come. She then takes care of all the artistic parts of the program, including planning the program. So that's really a full-time job for her."

**D: But when she moved to the US, she didn't have a job. What did she do when she came to America?**

L: "She had no job at the Bolshoi, but she still had this work for the Benois de la Danse."

Before she came to the US, she worked five or six years for this program. With a computer and telephone, you can work anywhere now."

By the time Stuart Loory and Nina Nikolaevna met each other they both were very close to the opposite culture. Professor Loory, who had been living in the USSR before, was half-Russian.

Nina Nikolaevna visited United States many times for her work and had become a half-American. Their lives have always been interesting.

Stuart Loory worked for the newspaper, in which Karl Marks a well-known economist and philosopher had worked, and also worked with Ted Turner, a founder of CNN.

Nina Nikolaevna is a friend of Yuri Grigorovich, ex-choreographer of the Bolshoi theatre, and Natasha Bessmertnova, a ballerina who danced the main role in the performance "Spartak" and who is a wife of Yuri Grigorovich. Professor Loory and Nina Kudriavtseva are a very interesting couple, who are surrounded by an artistic atmosphere.



# Russian student unites with American culture

Rafael Saakov

"America - complicated, paradoxical, bullheaded, shy, cruel, boisterous, unspeakably dear, and very beautiful."

These words belong to one of America's greatest writers of the XX century John Steinbeck.

I would add to his statement that America is a populated country with friendly people. I know this because in the fall of last year I had the pleasure of traveling to America and working with many Americans in Tacoma, Washington.

In this article, I want to sum up all of the details of the period I stayed in Tacoma (I was writing something like a diary) and to show how many people helped us to make our trip interesting and unforgettable.

Myself and three others from MSU left Moscow early Monday morning on November 17 and arrived at Sea-Tac airport (called so because of the location between Seattle and Tacoma - two of the biggest cities in Washington state) on the same Monday morning. The reason is the times zone; so we were flying back into the past.

In the airport Bill Richardson and Chris Demaske - known for us from their Moscow visit in March 2003 - met us and took us to the University of Washington, Tacoma to meet Vicky

Carwine, UWT Chancellor. We didn't speak a lot because we were tired from the flight, but we really enjoyed the conversation.

Then, while we were waiting for our host families, Bill took us on a trip around the University.

The glass sculpture created by Seattle's artist Dale Chihuly in the library



Rafael Saakov, a Russian student proud of his own culture and in love with America.

made a big impression on us. (Later during our stay, Bill and Chris took us to the Tacoma Museum of Glass, where we saw lots of other Chihuly art exhibits).

Soon, I met my American hostess - Natasha from Khabarovsk. On our way to her home, we spoke a lot about both Russia and America.

She has lived in Tacoma with her husband Sandy and son Sasha for more than ten years. Almost every day I woke up at 6:30 a.m. (in Moscow it is unreal for me) and would go to play tennis with Sandy.

Even though he always won, it was really cool because in Moscow I have no time to play my favorite game. A very professional player, Sandy cultivates sports to his son - Sasha swims, studies karate and, of course, plays tennis.

The next day there was a welcome party organized by the Associated Students of the University of Washington, Tacoma (the campus student government).

It was at this party that we met

everybody who was going to work on the joint newspaper project - Marques, Josh, Alex, Carmela, Deb, Meg, Monique and others.

In my mind, we became friends right when we met first. A very big and superb surprise for us was seeing Tolena and Karie, our friends/colleagues from the first meeting in Moscow. They had graduated in the summer and have been working since that time, but came to campus especially to see us.

After the welcome party, we visited the program of the Japanese Day, but we couldn't stay there for a long because of the pre-Thanksgiving Day party. Monique, the then News Editor of the Ledger, cooked Thanksgiving dinner for us because we were visiting just one week before

Americans celebrate their annual Thanksgiving holiday. It was something unbelievable - I ate so many tasty things including turkey, of course, that I couldn't even hold my camera. (My camera would irritate everyone by the end of our

journey).

The next day we were invited to Professor Dave Secord's house for an Indian dinner. The dinner with Alaskan Beer was excellent. As you see, I ate a lot in America. So, if didn't play tennis every day with Sandy, my parents and friends wouldn't recognize me when I came home.

Dave and his wife Amy are a very nice couple. They are such interesting interlocutors that we spoke till late evening, until Marques and Alex came and we drove to the Regal Cinema theatre.

We saw the movie Kill Bill: Volume one and laughed a lot. It was so funny to see how Uma Thurman beats so many people with such cruelty that we couldn't come round for a long time after the film ended.

On Thursday, our American hosts planned a visit to the main newspaper of Tacoma - The Tacoma News Tribune.

We took part in the editorial planning meeting and then talked with editor-in-chief David Zeek and his executive editors. We learned a lot about the American publishing model.

The first thing we learned is that neither the paper, nor the correspondents, are dependent on government approval. And, of course, we were surprised by the huge territory which the newspaper occupies - its even bigger than the territory of many Moscow capital newspapers.

Then, I went with Marques to his work - he works with children who love him very much.

He shows them their favorite films and plays different games with them. Marques also likes his work, possibly just as much as he likes basketball. I

have dreamt of attending an NBA match and Marques answered my wish by taking me to a Seattle Sonics game.

On my next trip to Seattle and Tacoma, I want to visit the space needle and, of course, I want to go out to some American nightclubs (I could not enter the clubs because American drinking age limit is 21 years old and I am only 20).

You know, I saw the USA in the way I was supposed to see the country. I have wanted to visit America ever since childhood and I learned a lot about the country long before I got the chance to visit it. That's why I think I wasn't surprised when I got there.

But, I can single out two things that very much surprised me: 1) that lots of students attend their classes and 2) that every student drives a car.

It's now interesting to see how many differences will Marques and Carmela, who came to Moscow to make this issue, find out in Russian culture and Russian journalism.

Maybe I forgot to cover some facts in this article, but I will never forget the honour all of our American friends have done to us.

I want to offer a special thank you to the people who were with us all of those days. You made every one of our wishes come true and we are very thankful to you!

And, finally, lots of thanks and hugs to everyone who is reading this article now.

## The Journalist Staff

Andrew Kots  
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Artem Ivanov  
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Ivan Tarasenko  
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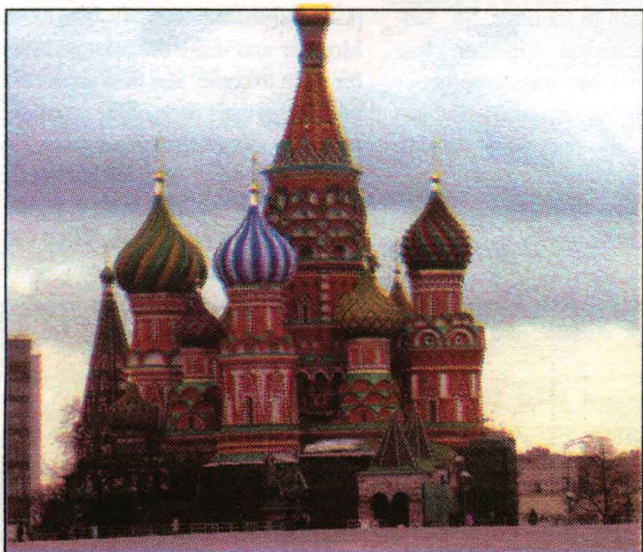
## The Ledger Staff

Marques Hunter  
Carmela Amador

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Chris Demaske

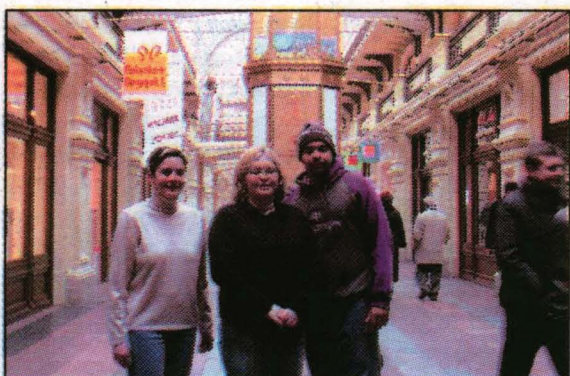
This issue is a joint project of The Ledger and The Journalist.

It was produced in Moscow, Russia at Moscow State University



The Kremlin in Red Square

Photo by Carmela Amador



Dr. Chris Demaske, Carmela Amador, and Marques Hunter in Red Square Mall

Photo by Simon Nekhoroshkin

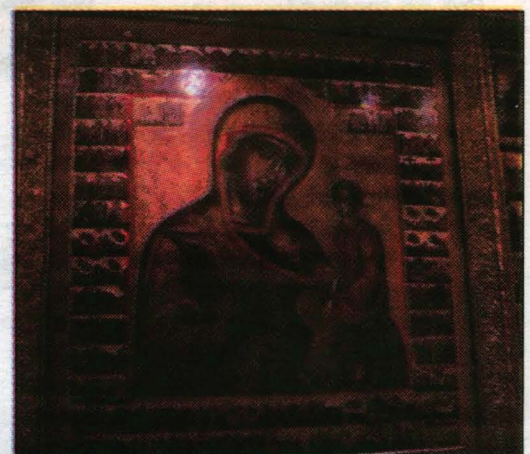


Photo by Carmela Amador

Madonna and Jesus mural in a Red Square Cathedral

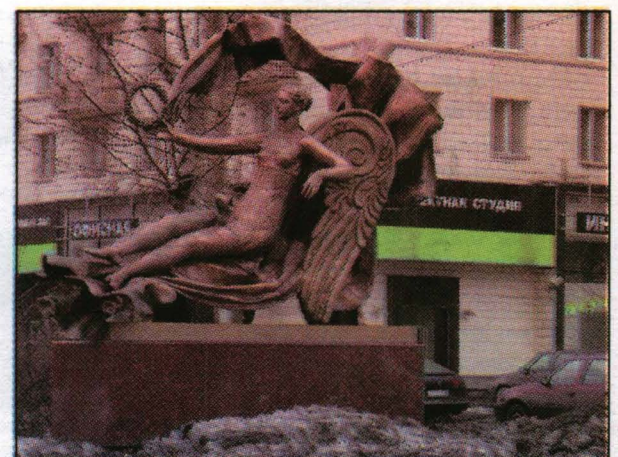


Photo by Carmela Amador

Statue across from our hotel, The Ukraina





With a plan for democratic and market-based reform Putin wins in Russia, but under what circumstances?  
Page 5



Two lovers share a relationship that spans decades and continents.  
Page 7



Russian journalism student Raefal Saakov writes of American experiences and adventures in Tacoma, WA  
Page 8

# JOURNALIST/ LEDGER

JOINT PROJECT of JOURNALIST at MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY and THE LEDGER at the UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON, TACOMA

## Russia fights terrorist ideals in concert

Simon Nekhoroshkin

Celebrities and musicians came together to pay tribute to the victims of the terrorist bombing that wounded and killed so many on Feb. 6 in the Moscow Metro.

The House of Composers housed the charity event called "To Live and to Remember" hosted by the Moscow Union of Composers.

The Union invited celebrities to take part in the evening of mourning and to display support for Russia's tragic loss. Both the musicians and the celebrities gave their time and money as charity to benefit the families who had lost their loved ones.

The master of ceremonies were famous Russian actors Natalya Varlei and Vyatcheslav Shalevich.

"We must always remember about terrorism, the problem that has already spread all over the world. And we should not forget about the people who suffered from it," said Alexander Asmolov, the doctor of psychology and professor of the Moscow State University.

"The society must consolidate itself before the danger of world terrorism. And our concert shows that art has no fear before the face of the enemy and it will always serve people."

A suicide-terrorist blew up the subway car when the train was driving to the Paveletskaya station.

About 40 people were killed and about 100 wounded as a result of the attack.

Concerts like "To Live and to Remember" cannot fight the terrorism itself, but can fight against its idea or goal. They can boost the moral of the international community to feel less terrorized by terrorism.

## Election 2004

### Little Tsakhes wins the landslide in the first tour

Arseniy Proudnikov

At 9 p.m., Alexander Veshnyakov, head of Central Elections Commission, CIK, announced the results of Russia's presidential election. Vladimir Putin led the election race with 66.5 percent.

Putin's victory was an unexpected gift from Tatarstan, Chechnya, Dagestan and Bashkortostan. Countries where Mr. Putin won took 97-98 percent of the vote.

CIK officials were full of enthusiasm all night long from the poll results.

One of the Moscow State University students, who was affiliated with the info-agency

## Russian media favors Kerry as candidate

Ivan Tarasenko

It has become apparent that the American presidential campaign will be anything but dull. President George W. Bush and Democratic candidate Sen. John Kerry will be neck and neck for a seat in the white house.

This Feb. the Russian Gazeta, one of the most accredited media outlets in Moscow, covered the American presidential campaign, indicating that the Russians care just as much as Americans about who will be the next U.S. president.

This month, the Russian newspapers considered John Kerry to be the candidate most likely to win.

"Kerry feels very comfortable as his popularity among the Americans continues to grow," the Gazeta commented.

The reason for the increasing popularity of the leader of the democratic party is a growing discontent with President Bush's homeland security and foreign policy.

Information on Iranian radio on Feb. 27 about the capture of Osama Bin Laden and the denial of this information by Washington was criticized by the Kommersant, another main Russian newspaper.

They reported, "If Bush can't catch Bin Laden before the election, the American voters will not be likely to give him other four years to catch him."

The Russian press also began covering how Bush and Kerry have been attacking each other's weak points.

"While the electoral campaign is going on, the presidential aspirants are striking back," reported the

Rosbalt, was thrown out of the building by CIK officials because he left a sheet that said "reserved" on his computer.

Everything would have been fine if Rosbalt had not been a National-Bolshevik party leaflet, which contained things like, "Russia without Putin" & "I f\*\*ked up the elections." This student served as an example of the Russian 'democracy'.

Also that evening, Kharitonov Nikolai Mikhailovich, the male opponent to Putin, said that people will trust Putin only half of a year or a year.

It was clear he wasn't sure in his own words. Maybe he lacks charisma, which is the priority of our president.

His majesty Nikolai Mikhailovich, like a first-class pupil, repeated his statement over and over for the



Kommersant.

Kerry has criticized Bush for avoiding service in the military. While Bush has accused Kerry of adultery with a young journalist Alex Polier.

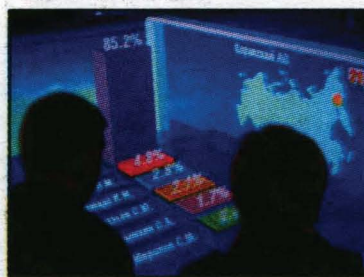
"Bush's supporters have at last found 'the weak place' of John Kerry. The Massachusetts senator is blamed for making friends with 'Europeans' and of being 'too

European.' For the conservative voters of the Republican party the word 'European' sounds like accusation," reported the Izvestia, another Russian media source.

Russian newspapers also tried to predict how the connections between Russia and the USA will change if the democrats win the coming election.

Mark Medish, advisor to demo-

cratic candidate John Kerry told the Izvestia, "The dialogue between Bush and Putin was unnaturally narrow. It was only about the security. If the democrats win the election the conversation between Russia and the United States will become more broad and balanced. It is possible that the Kremlin will not always like such kind of conversation."



media coverage.

Irina Hakamada, Russia's female presidential candidate, was expected to come to the democratic media, but never came. Instead of the media coverage, she chose to observe the process of counting votes from an alternative center.

Back in CIK's apartment 1300 reporters from 44 countries got what they expected. At 11 p.m. Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin had 68.8 percent.

Local authorities began using sophisticated methods to ensure votes for Putin — they started giving theatre

tickets and portraits of Putin to voters.

St. Petersburg officials distributed free disco tickets to young voters in effort to make them take part in Putin's victory. As a result, the God of stability got about 75 percent of the vote.

After midnight, the historical complex of The Manege caught fire.

Reports said that MSU, the journalism school across the street, was also likely to catch fire.

Nearby journalists looked very scared, yet governmental officials joked about MSU burning down, not caring one way or the other if it did.

The great fire was covered mainly by the NTV correspondents, which were reporting live every hour.

The governmental Rossia channel showed the footage of burning Manege twice, while they were broadcasting Putin's

overwhelming results and his speech during the press conference in his campaign headquarters.

How strange it is to watching the president ensure the prosperity and stability of Russia on one screen, while an apocalyptic scene was happening on another screen.

During Putin's performance the NTV journalists mocked Putin while the pro-Kremlin RTR staff kept silence and tried not to smile.

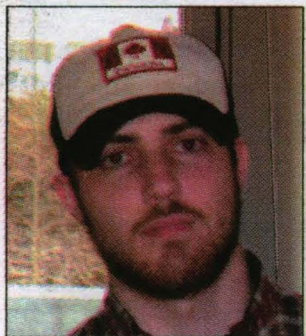
Khakamada got about 7 percent in Moscow-city & conquered the second place, at least it's better than nothing, right? But in the long run it only amounted to 3.9 percent of the vote.

At 10 a.m. the Themis-serviceman, who seemed to be very sleepy, but full of enthusiasm, announced that the candidate Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, the big V.V.P. won the presidential throne. God bless Mr. Putin!



## UWT speaks out:

Students at the University of Washington, Tacoma voice their opinion about the Iraq War and the presence of U.S. Coalition forces stationed in Iraq.



“ Steven Cahill:  
Bad idea.”



“ Trevor Kidd:  
Word to that.”



“ Margaret Rzymowska:  
It attempts to assert America's conquering spirit.”



“ Marlene Hansen:  
Imperialism at it's utmost.”

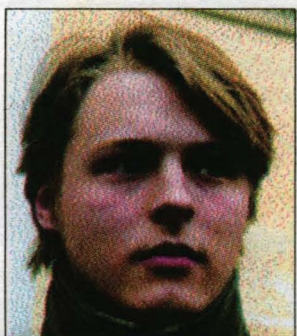


“ Brent Biggs  
I hope for a safe & speedy return for my friends that are in Iraq.”

The interviews and photographs by Carmela Amador

## MSU speaks out:

A year has passed since the American troops invaded Iraq. In this joint issue of The Journalist, we have decided to ask the journalism students the following question: “Has your opinion about the war in Iraq changed this year?”



“ Alexander Mizoukaev  
My opinion about the situation in Iraq hasn't changed. The main reason American military invaded Iraq was not to find weapons of mass destruction, but to overthrow the regime of Saddam Hussein. Also, the Americans wanted to get Iraqi's oil fields. There is nothing bad in that but the Americans should have told the world about their genuine intentions instead of concocting ridiculous justifications.”



“ Alexander Malakhov  
The war started because the United States wanted to control Iraqi oil. The Prime Minister of Great Britain Tony Blair indirectly confirmed it when he claimed no weapons of mass destruction were found.”



“ Natasha Fursova  
When the war began, I was against it. I thought it wasn't really necessary. The American actions in the war were performed like a well done play. It was evident that the Americans wouldn't find any evidence of weapons of mass destruction. I understood why the Americans invaded because it wasn't merely a restoration of democracy. I am still against this war. But, I also think that the Americans have made a big mistake when they invaded Iraq. They will stay there for a long time and will have many problems with the fanatic rebels.”

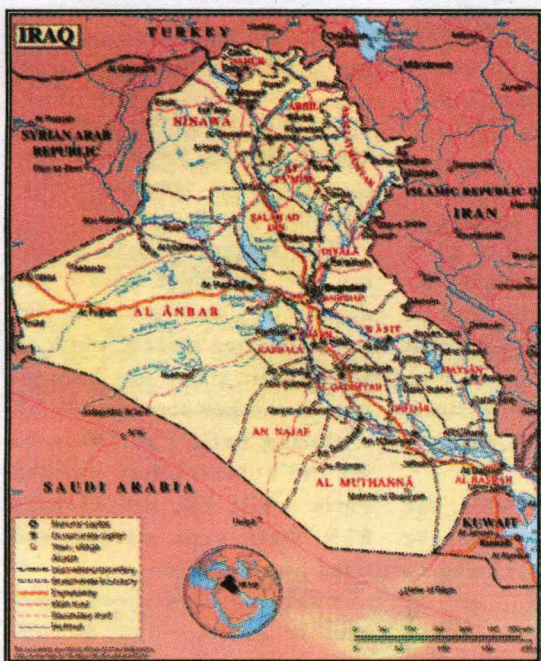


“ Sabir Gasanov  
I think the same as I did a year ago. The war was started by the United States to seize the Iraqi oil. I am against this war and I am against all wars. A normal man respectful of his belief should consider an alternative besides war.”



“ Lena Tikhonova  
My attitude about the Iraqi war hasn't changed a bit. From the very beginning, my attitude was negative and it's still negative. The Americans started the war in Iraq to get oil, not to find weapons of mass destruction. And now it is quite clear to everyone. The Americans told the entire world inaccurate facts about the chemical weapons in Iraq. But as time passed, I believe these facts turned out to be false. I don't understand these kinds of international relationships.”

The interviews by Alexei Aliev and Karina Pavlova photographs by Maria Ischenko



**16.03.2003.** Iraqi military forces fully mobilize. The Iraqi government divides the country into four military divisions under the command of the President Saddam Hussein.

**18.03.2003.** U.S. President George W. Bush requires that Saddam Hussein surrenders in 48 hours. Otherwise, Anti-Iraqi Coalition (AIC) military forces start the war.

**26.03.2003.** Iraqi forces are trying to drive AIC forces from Basra's suburbs. Um-Kasr, a city in the southern part of Iraq, is captured by the coalition. The battlefield reaches Baghdad.

**26.03.2003 - 10.04.2003.** AIC forces capture Carbela, Al-Iskanderia, Basra and some other smaller cities. Multiple cases of friendly fire occur in the coalition forces. British and American Marines fight with Iraqi elite guardian forces in the suburbs of regularly bombed Baghdad. City defenses deteriorate.

**19.03.2003.** Coalition forces cross the Iraqi border. War has begun. British and American bombers start to attack Baghdad and other cities. Airports of Basra are captured by the AIC.

**25.03.2003.** Iraqi forces are trying to drive AIC forces from Basra's suburbs.

**25.03.2003.** Iraqi forces are trying to drive AIC forces from Basra's suburbs.

**26.03.2003 - 10.04.2003.** AIC forces capture Carbela, Al-

He retreats with the rest of his bodyguards. American Marines are preparing to assault Kirkuk and Mosul.

**17.04.2003.** All main cities are under the coalition control. AIC forces hunt down the remnants of the Iraqi army. Hussein is still hiding. Establishment of new Iraqi government begins.

**05.2003.** Situation in Iraq slowly stabilizes. All cities are regularly patrolled by the coalition forces. Police units of Iraqi volunteers are formed. Iraqi rebels continue to resist and sabotage attacks on American forces remain consistent.

**06.2003 - 10.2003.** New government is established. American forces still stationed in Iraq. American military presence resisted by Iraqi citizens. Rebels attack the coalition forces daily. U.S. President George W. Bush declares that war in Iraq is far from over. Weapons of mass destruction are not found. This time period can be called a “silent guerrilla war.”

**11.2003.** The most bloody month for

the coalition forces occurs when Iraqi rebels become surprisingly accurate in shooting down American military transport helicopters.

There are multiple cases of kamikaze acts. Casualties are extremely high - approximately 200 American soldiers.

**12.2003.** On the 14 of December Saddam Hussein captured by American special forces. It is the main event in the Iraqi War. It did not make rebels surrender.

**01.2004 - 03.2004.** This time period is the one year anniversary of the Iraqi War. Situation in Iraq is still very tense.

Weapons of mass destruction are not found. Saddam Hussein refuses to testify. U.S. President George W. Bush declares that American forces will stay in Iraq till 06.2004.

- Andrew Kots

# Chronicles of Iraq



# Media manipulating voter opinion

Marques Hunter

The ongoing presidential campaign in America seems to be largely controlled by the media, glorifying what one candidate has done or criticizing what he has failed to do.

Yes, President Bush has promoted growth in the economy after the events of terrorism in America. Sure, he's maintained national security in America.

But according to opposing candidate Sen. John Kerry, President Bush has not done a good job.

Kerry says that Bush has provided major tax cuts for the wealthiest, while he simultaneously broke his promise to provide relief to middle class Americans.

He also pokes at Bush by saying the middle class has been denied proper medical benefits.

Moreover, according to Kerry, Bush will lead America into a budgetary crisis of \$5.3 trillion during the next decade. These are all assertions that have been turned into advertisements on television or highlighted in popular press journals.

Yes, Kerry has the opportunity to become the next American president. Yes, much of what Kerry says he will do if elected will happen. But, I guarantee if he's elected, there will be some area where Kerry has not stayed true to his word.

So, what does this mean?

Can either of the two political juggernauts in America be trusted when they make propositions to improve America?

I think it's necessary that both Kerry and Bush debate who will be a better president.

But this may not sway a voter one way or the other. I think the media's influence on the public to believe either Bush or Kerry will be the deciding factor.

And, I think the negative tone of the current advertisements in America may have the largest impact on public choice.

Through these advertisements, of Bush and Kerry are merely glorifying messages of what each has done or what each has failed to do. The media, so eager to persuade viewers, has framed the presidential election by highlighting key points of either Bush's or Kerry's political platforms.

Because nobody is clever enough to satisfy each and every person in America, Bush and Kerry have unleashed campaigns that do their best to exploit the weaknesses of each other. Have political campaigns reached a boiling point of "look at what you've done?"

Ultimately, Bush and Kerry actually have something in common.

They know how to spend millions of dollars to make each other look like complete enemies.

- PURSUING THE  
TERRORIST ENEMY  
- CREATING JOBS WITH PRO-  
GROWTH ECONOMIC AGENDA  
- MAKING HEALTHCARE  
AFFORDABLE AND PRE-  
DICTABLE  
- REDUCING LAWSUIT  
BURDEN ON ECONOMY  
- NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND CON-  
TINUATION  
- TAX RELIEF THAT MOVES  
ECONOMY FORWARD

- BRINGING JOBS BACK  
TO AMERICA  
- RESTORING  
ECONOMIC GROWTH  
- NATIONAL SECURITY  
- HOMELAND DEFENSE  
- EDUCATIONAL  
EXCELLENCE  
- TAX CUT FOR THE MID-  
DLE CLASS  
- CUT THE DEFICIT  
- REEVALUATE IRAQ  
PRESENCE

# Kerry righting what Bush has wronged

Carmela Amador

A government made by the people for the people should give the people of America choices.

Or at least more choices than choosing between health-care and groceries.

Democratic candidate Senator John Kerry is promising to ease this tension of choices by a redistribution of tax relief in his presidential campaign to ensure that the people of America will be able to afford a healthcare provider and still make ends meet.

In doing so, Kerry is assuring Americans that they will be able to afford the same health care plan that is available to elected officials in Congress and the administration.

To make this possible Kerry is distributing tax reliefs more effectively by giving them to the middle class, instead of the upper class like President Bush has done.

Senator Kerry would like to see a tax break for the middle class so that families can afford college, a visit to the

doctor, and the groceries.

Social services, such as healthcare, have been cut and due to a tax relief President George W. Bush approved in 2001 that gave a tax breaks to the upper class, the middle and lower classes were taxed more in property taxes, higher government fees and higher health care costs.

With a growing deficit as well as unemployment, layoffs became the result of the upper class tax break. Without a job or healthcare, some middle class families began to slide into destitution.

Bush assured Americans that a tax relief for the upper class would provide more jobs, yet today more than 8.6 million Americans comb the employment classifieds.

Senator Kerry would like to bring these jobs back to America by decreasing outsourcing, reviving American manufacturing and ending layoffs in education which are things Bush did not, and will not, do.

In addition, it is important for a president to be elected that actually listens to the people that voted for him.

What is the point of freedom of speech if you are not heard? Some people may call it leadership when a president goes to war despite the objection of the protests of millions of American people. On the other hand, some may call it a dictatorship.

The question Americans have to ask themselves is whether they want to advance as a country, or allow the executive board to dictate choices for them.

Living in an on and off Orange Alert culture is getting old. We need to have a consistent leadership that listens to all classes of people and their issues.

When a presidential candidate like John Kerry hops on a stage and makes promises regarding the things America has lacked for the last three and a half years, listen.

Listen to his words and think about the future of such a valuable and honorable country under the leadership of one of it's veterans. "Change is coming to America," yells Kerry at the end of every campaign rally. Make this change come true under a democracy, not a dictatorship.

# Russia in our words:

## Two UWT students on their journalism experience in Moscow

The thought of graduating this June used to make me feel like I'm almost finished with my education. I was grateful that it was finally over.

Traveling to Moscow, Russia for journalism this spring break helped me realize that my learning, in many capacities, is far from over.

This collaborate issue with students from the Moscow State University journalism department helped me arrive at this conclusion.

The students I worked with during production were bright, but sometimes it was a little difficult to translate words.

Going to Moscow, Russia has provided me with a better global understanding of people and the small differences among us.

The students at Moscow State University were fantastic.

Although being in Moscow for six days was a dramatic change from America, the students at MSU really made us feel at home.

Their attitudes in helping us get around via Metro, (the term for subway) trolley and the bus showed us they were willing to make a special contribution to our experience in their country.

Dasha, one of the students working with us, would defer to her peers in Russian for help on finding an English word.

"Excuse me for speaking in Russian again," Dasha said to me.

"Excuse me for my English, and my lack of Russian," I said back to her with a laugh.

This short exchange of words, one with an American accent and one with Russian, stuck with me after the trip. It's funny, how sometimes you can't learn in a classroom what

you can learn in a short conversation with another student on the other side of the world.

This trip to Moscow taught me how much I don't know about the people of Russia, their rich culture and intriguing history.

The students that guided us around Moscow knew the history of the buildings, told us in detail about what was going on in their government,

and introduced me to some very interesting foods.

Their vast knowledge impressed me greatly, yet I felt cheated with my meager American education. The Russian government has much less money than ours does, yet our education is so much poorer.

The students at MSU were far beyond where I was in my second year of college in maturity and knowledge of the world around them.

They were open-minded, patient, and introduced me to their country without the rose-colored glasses, but instead with appreciation and respect for the city in

its entirety.

To Maria, the students at The Journalist, and Raphael, thank you for so many life-enhancing experiences during such a short trip. I learned so much about Russia, all of you, and even myself.

To Dr. Chris Demaske, thank you for your teaching, letting me fall on my face every once in a while, and laughing at me when I accidentally ate raw bacon.

To the students reading this issue, your learning will never rest unless you let it.

- Carmela Amador



Photo courtesy of the Russian Gazeta  
From left to right: Raphael Saakov, Carmela Amador, Sasha, Managing Editor of the Russian Gazeta, Marques Hunter, Dr. Chris Demaske, staff assistant Assitant Editor, and News Editor

The Kremlin and the Red Square were two places we visited that are the historical landmarks in Moscow.

These two places contained wondrous palaces where the Czars' lived and beautiful cathedrals that showed the rich quality of their countries dominant religion, which is ortho-

While in Moscow, the cultural experience was one I will never forget. It will be impossible to forget the mass transit system that is so remarkably useful to students and people in Moscow.

But most importantly, I will not forget how interesting the Russian culture is.

Moscow is a city with beautiful historical architecture.

Our own hotel was one of seven identical towers built by Joseph Stalin during that period.

When I was chosen to go on this trip, I knew things wouldn't be the same. And that's what I was looking forward to.

But I did not notice a big difference between the students here in America and the students in Moscow.

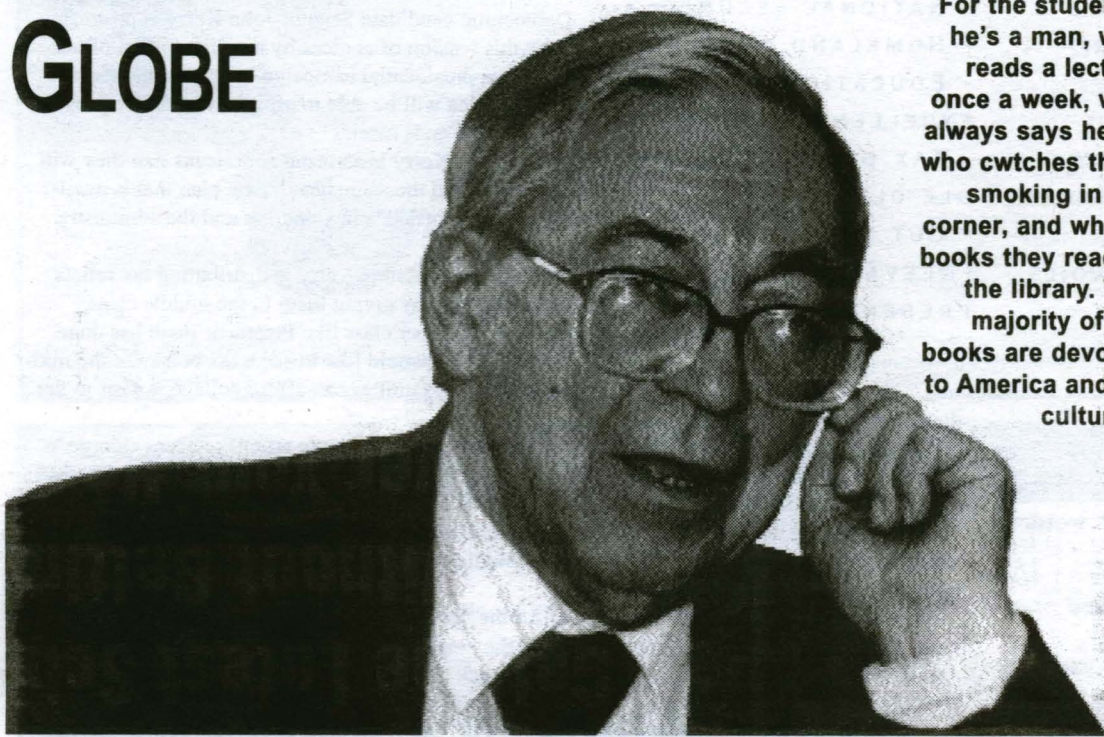
I think all Americans should visit another country to gather an appreciation and not take for granted the freedoms, opportunities and resources we have in America.

- Marques Hunter



Yassen Zassoursky:

# THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GLOBE



Ksenia Krohina  
Artem Ivanov

## 60 years watching American culture

**Mr. Yassen Nickolaevitch, why did you start to study American culture?**

"I started studying American culture after my father had flown to the World Fair in New York City and told me a lot about the USA and the American vision of the future as it was in 1939. The most interesting thing that amazed my dad was 'The kitchen of the future.' Washing machines, refrigerators... Nowadays it is usual to see these machines in every house, but those days it was something unexpected. You may be surprised, but in our days we had no refrigerators - only ice boxes. But, everything has changed pretty fast."

**And, has American culture changed, too?**

"Certainly. I'm 60 years watching American culture, and it changed and keeps changing. I wrote my first student paper, which deals with American literature, in 1945. The USA today and the USA of the forties is very different. For example: when my father came to America their delegation had a personal driver who was a black man and he was very frightened to shake hands with Russian white people. Or, another example. Last century, American buses had separate seats for white and black people. And, nowadays you can see these buses only in a museum. So, the dynamic of change is just amazing."

## In America you should help yourself

**So, what is the American culture?**

"First of all cinema, then literature, poetry, music and theatre. But the most significant American art is cinema, of course. It would be better to say that cinema is the national culture, as it is very developed. There is a great difference between Russian and American schools. The concentration in the details, montage, creation of the new vision - those are the most prominent novelties of the American school. And, the national prize the Oscar, which is considered to be the most valuable."

**What is your favorite American movie?**

"Oh, I haven't one, but I'm fond of Charlie Chaplin. His films are full of very American humor, with its eccentricity and exaggeration."

**But why are Americans so good in cinema?**

"I think it depends on their national character. Americans don't like collective action as we do. They are very independent. You see, in America you should help yourself. And I think that it's great. In the USA everything you do should be done by your own hands. As you may know, the first immigrants in the early XVII century were very strong people, as they had to cross the ocean. They had to build new houses, to resist cold winters and warm summers, to create new culture, to create a new world."

## United country - united culture

**Mr. Yassen Nickolaevitch, is American culture of one piece or it is a mixture of many others?**

"I think that English culture is dominating, as Americans speak English and not French or German. But we shouldn't forget black people, who were slaves. They introduced a great amount of significant things into American culture. People all over the world listen to jazz, ragtime, blues and very interesting spiritual drum music. And, of course, there are Latin features. Spanish language is the second for the inhabitants of parts of the USA. So, American culture has a lot of roots. It's saved distinguishing features of different cultures, and this makes a unique face of America. United country - united culture."

## Mobile and religious

**How do Russian and American cultures differ and what do they have in common?**

"Differences in culture and mentality are connected firstly with the history. Recently, I've got the so called tree of my family. I know eleven generations and all of them lived in one town, Penza. Americans are the nation of immigrants. They have 'my country,' the USA, and the motherland, where their grandparenta are from. We have deeper roots as Europeans. We are attached to our native tombs and hearths. Of course, Americans have their roots too, but they are out of America. Maybe that's why Americans are more mobile and dynamic. There, a man could do his business in one city and live with his wife in another, which is unusual for us. They don't like to rely on somebody. There is no such thing as a huge family, as we have in Russia. An American leaves his mum's and dad's earlier and starts to make his own life. There is not 'maintenance' in the mentality. There are some differences in the reli-

gion. For the USA, Christianity is something more than for Europe and even Russia. The Holy Bible has special meaning not only for the American conscience, but for the society and state system, too. Russia culture is religious, but still there are pagan traditions. For example, we have our leshii and domovoi (types of Russian elves). Pagan gods are still alive in Russia - at least in Russian folklore. In American folklore they sing the great achievements of people, not gods. So, metaphoric visions of the world differ in depth.

But what these countries have in common is obviously vast territory. It causes the vastness and profundity of these two cultures, two mentalities."

## We can't be melted into something else

**Can we consider the achievements of famous immigrants from Russia and other countries as a part of American culture or the cultures of their motherlands?**

"The great feature of America is the capacity to accept and to adopt strangers into its culture. This process is called melting pot: after you are dropped there, you turn out to be a new person. But, I should say that it is not so for Russian immigrants, who assimilate harder. Russian culture is so rich, so great. It can't be melted into something else, but it enriches other cultures and American culture, too."

## Russian way

**In what way has the Russian culture enriched the American culture?**

"The great contribution of Russian culture was the humanistic experience by Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Chechov, etc. They showed a special 'Russian' way of thinking, feeling and outlook. Many American artists were created under the direct influence of these ideas."

**How can you comment on this notorious question: why do we live not as well as they do?**

"They work harder. Even if you take students. Our student might be brighter; American's are always harder-working. If he comes to a lecture, he would feel obliged to take notes, while the Russian one would rely on his memory. This is a great advantage for them and a great lack for us. There is just a word, which says it all - Oblomov." (Oblomov refers to a character in a nineteenth century Russian novel by Goncharov.)

The dean of the faculty of journalism (MSU) Yassen Nickolaevitch Zassoursky is an outstanding person who has had a major impact on Russian culture. For the students, he's a man, who reads a lecture once a week, who always says hello, who cwtches them smoking in the corner, and whose books they read in the library. The majority of his books are devoted to America and its culture...

*He strides along the frozen cobblestone sidewalk, confidently making his way through the bustling crowds of Moscow, Russia. The cold wind stings him like a needle as he passes through the Kremlin, marveling the elegant cathedrals, museums and historic buildings.*

by Marques Hunter

Most Americans wouldn't dare strolling into the heart of Moscow with hordes of people. But University of Washington, Tacoma (UWT) Professor Bill Richardson enjoys talking to the people and noticing the small differences between American and Russian people.

Richardson is a professor of history and international studies and department chair in the Interdisciplinary Arts and Science program at UWT.

As a scholar, he has conducted research at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. Last year, he flew to Moscow with two students and one faculty from UWT to initiate the first collaboration between UWT and Moscow State University (MSU) journalism students.

Richardson speaks Russian, German, French and Spanish. He has visited Russia more than 10 times.

Since the collapse of communism in 1991, Russia has undergone political change. This, according to Richardson, has allowed the Russian people to feel more comfortable because they have individual freedom.

"People are willing to tell the truth now, whereas before they were telling something that the government wanted them to say," Richardson said.

He first visited Moscow in 1982 when he was a graduate student studying the history of Russia. According to Richardson, when communism was in power, people were formal and would rarely invite him to their apartments. Since the rise in democracy, he says everything is different in terms of the interpersonal interactions of the Russian people.

"In the '90s, you get a whole different understanding of society and the individuals," Richardson said.

Having spent a considerable amount of time in Russia, Richardson notices many of the little differences between Americans and Russians. He says that people in Russia walk differently because of the snow and ice on the ground. He notes that people in Russia have much more serious looks on their faces, versus Americans who smile more often.

Although the Russians may not smile as much, they value their families much more than Americans.

"One of the things I like about the Russians is that they have a very strong family support unit," Richardson said. "And, it's not just your immediate family. It's your friends and the people you work with. Russians are much closer to their family and rely on each other a lot more."

The best school in Moscow is MSU. Just as many students at UWT think education is important, MSU students also take pride in their education system. MSU students focus much more in their majors.

"By the time they get to the university, they have a really good education behind them," Richardson said.

There are some differences in the education system between UWT and MSU, according to Richardson.

UWT students take a variety of classes that include electives. MSU students also take general elective courses, but they focus much more on their individual majors. The curriculum at MSU is more like graduate school than undergraduate school because it requires students to focus in more depth on their majors. High school curriculums in Moscow are much more like a blending of half high school and community college.

Only a small portion of students go to college in Russia. So for them, going to college is viewed as a special opportunity.

"For the Russian students their lives are being a student," Richardson said.

In high school, Richardson was going to be a physicist. When college came, he was required to take a foreign language class in college. He eventually found out that he did not want to be a physicist. He later took a course in Russian literature and Russian history and thought it was fascinating.

It is understood in American culture that a foreigner must learn the English language or fall behind. Americans, on the other hand, are reluctant to learn a different language given the common use of the English language in many other countries. Richardson says the Russians are very good at learning other foreign languages.

"They don't know the slang, but they pick that up pretty fast," Richardson said. "That's one of their strengths; their ability to study foreign language and learning the foreign language."

When going to Russia, Richardson enjoys the historical sites, libraries, archives and especially talking to the people. He has great admiration for the people that lived through World War II and the Joseph Stalin period.

Essentially, Richardson thinks Russia is a fascinating place.

"I think this connection with Moscow State is really valuable to us (UWT). And, I think they (MSU) see its valuable to their students as well."

